

D1,41:36/1

November 1992

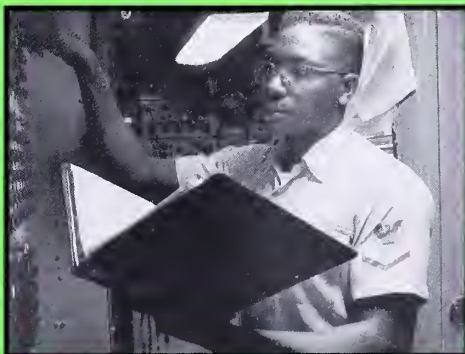
Profile

a guide to military lifestyles



Army Rangers

Around the World...



...Around the Clock

F.Y.I.

For Your Information

Welcome back!

We hope your summer vacation went well and that the coming school year is a fun and productive one for you.

At PROFILE, we had one of our best summers ever. For starters, we received our long-awaited desktop publishing system. The issue you are reading now is the first PROFILE produced with the new system. For those of you not familiar with desktop publishing, the technological improvement simply means that the PROFILE staff is able to write, edit, design and proof the entire magazine on computer monitors. Previously, most of these tasks were performed manually. Now, we have the capability to see an almost finished product without having to manually cut and paste pages. The end result is a greater variety of design options and more time to dedicate to the design process. We hope you like the results in this and forthcoming issues.

The summer also gave us a chance to analyze the feedback we received from students, guidance counselors and education specialists who mailed in readership surveys. Most of the feedback was very positive. There were several story suggestions and we'll be incorporating some of those ideas in future issues.

The third bit of news is our new distribution system. With this issue we've added additional Reserve Officers' Training Corps and JROTC

units to our mailing list. In the near future, we plan to add more high schools and colleges. Stand by for updates.

Now, as we kick off our 36th publishing year, here's what's on tap for this issue.

Our first feature is a 10-page photo story that should give you an idea of the variety of missions the military tackles and the diverse locations where military people perform those missions. Entitled "Around the World...Around the Clock," the photofeature shows that even though the Cold War has ended and the geopolitical structure has changed, American servicemembers still have a job to do — whether they're in Europe, Asia or the United States.

Our Career Profiles include stories about Navy missile technicians, Air Force recruiters, Marine Corps public affairs specialists and Coast Guard health services specialists.

Our Officer Profile is on an Army Airborne Ranger.

We think it's a pretty good story mix, but it's only the tip of the iceberg. There's more great stuff coming in future issues and we look forward to bringing those stories to you too.

For now, read on!

Steve Dry

Master Sergeant Steve Dry, USAF
Managing Editor

Profile

Director

Cmdr. Edward H. Lundquist

USN

Deputy Director

Maj. Gerard J. Haag

USA

Managing Editor

MSgt. Steven J. Dry

USAF

Editors

JO1 Lorenzo M. Garcia

USN

Sgt. Donald T. Wrenn

USA

Cpl. Karl C. Ulrich

USMC

Circulation

SSgt. Redmond Merrell

USAF

PROFILE (USPS 457-490) is published monthly November through April by the DoD High School News Service.

This magazine is designed to inform young people and guidance personnel about the benefits, opportunities, privileges and programs available in the military services.

The Secretary of the Navy has determined that publication of this periodical is necessary in the transaction of the public business required by law of this department. Funds for printing this publication were approved by the Office of Management and Budget, Dec. 2, 1980.

Reproduction of articles and supporting photographs is authorized provided proper credit is given. For more information write:

DoD High School News Service

PROFILE Magazine

Bldg. X-18, Naval Station

Norfolk, Va., 23511-6698

Phone: Commercial (804) 444-2828

DSN 564-2828

Third class circulation paid at Norfolk, Va., and at an additional mailing office in Milford, Conn.

Contents

Volume 36

Number 1

November 1992

2 F.Y.I.

CAREER PROFILES

**14 The Black
Beret**

Army Officer Profile

16 Down Under
Navy Trident II Missile
Technicians

**18 The Straight
Pitch**

Air Force Recruiters

**20 The 'Write'
Stuff**

Marine Corps Public
Affairs Specialists

**22 The Doctor's
'Patient'
Assistant**

Coast Guard Health
Services Specialists

23 P.S.

24 BackTalk

cover

Airborne Rangers get into
firing position.

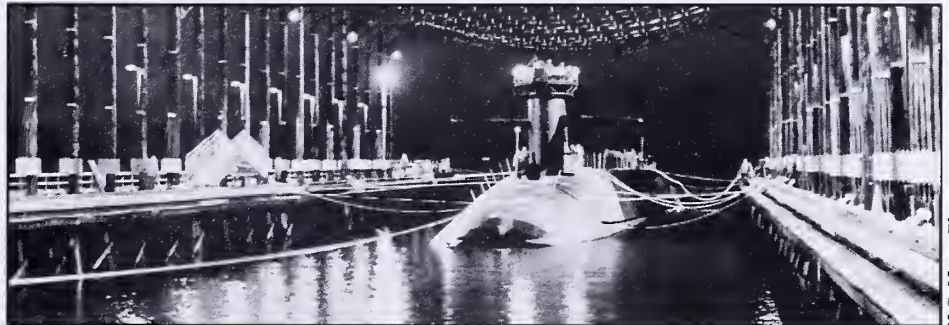
American forces serve around
the globe, day and night.

DoD Photos

FEATURE

**4 Around the World...
Around the Clock**

Take a look at the mission of the U.S. military —
all around the world, 24 hours a day



U.S. Navy Photo



DoD Photo



DoD Photo



U.S. Air Force Photo



Around the World...Around the Clock



U. S. Navy Photo

From East of the Mississippi...



DoD Photo by Ken Hammond

By Master Sergeant Steve Dry

Washington, D.C.

That's where you'll find one of the world's largest office buildings, better known as the Pentagon.

Inside, thousands of soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and their civilian counterparts are at work. Some are planners. Others are coordinators. Many are staff assistants who provide the key military and civilian decision makers with the information they need to ensure the nation's critical defense needs are met.

Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney and General

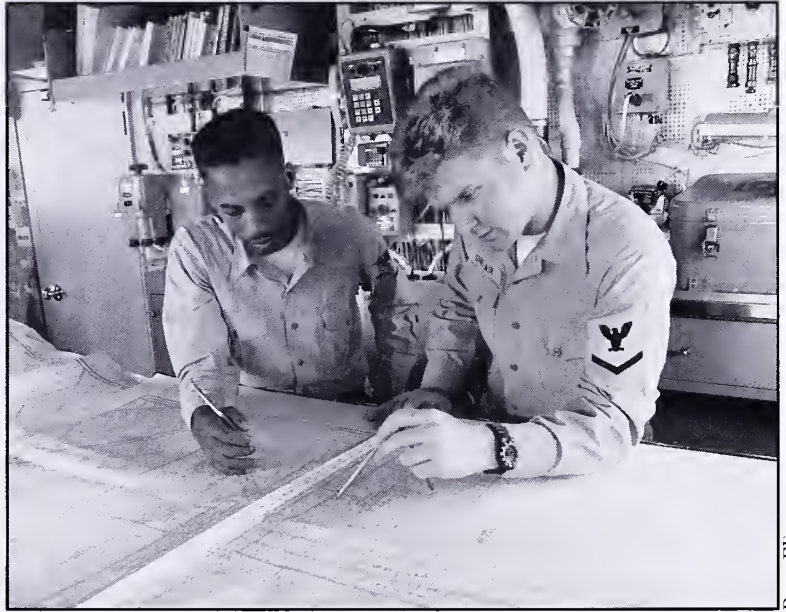
Colin Powell, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, are the most notable American leaders who operate from the Pentagon. They represent not only the thousands of servicemembers who daily wind through the Pentagon's maze of corridors, but, also, the hundreds of thousands of military people around the world who ensure the defense mission is met.

Washington, D.C. may be the focal point of America's military. But, it's not the only point. American military people are at work around the world, around the clock, ensuring the peace. That's the real story.

At Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., three airmen carry a mannequin from a burning building during training.



U.S. Air Force Photo



Ronn Elias

In the Gulf of Mexico, two sailors aboard the guided missile frigate *USS Anzio* plot a course.

At Fort Campbell, Ky., several recruits in basic training discover that becoming a member of the defense team doesn't happen without paying a price.

They're all part of the equation that adds up to military vigilance.

Everywhere.

All the time.



U.S. Army Photo

Around the World...Around the Clock



U. S. Navy Photo

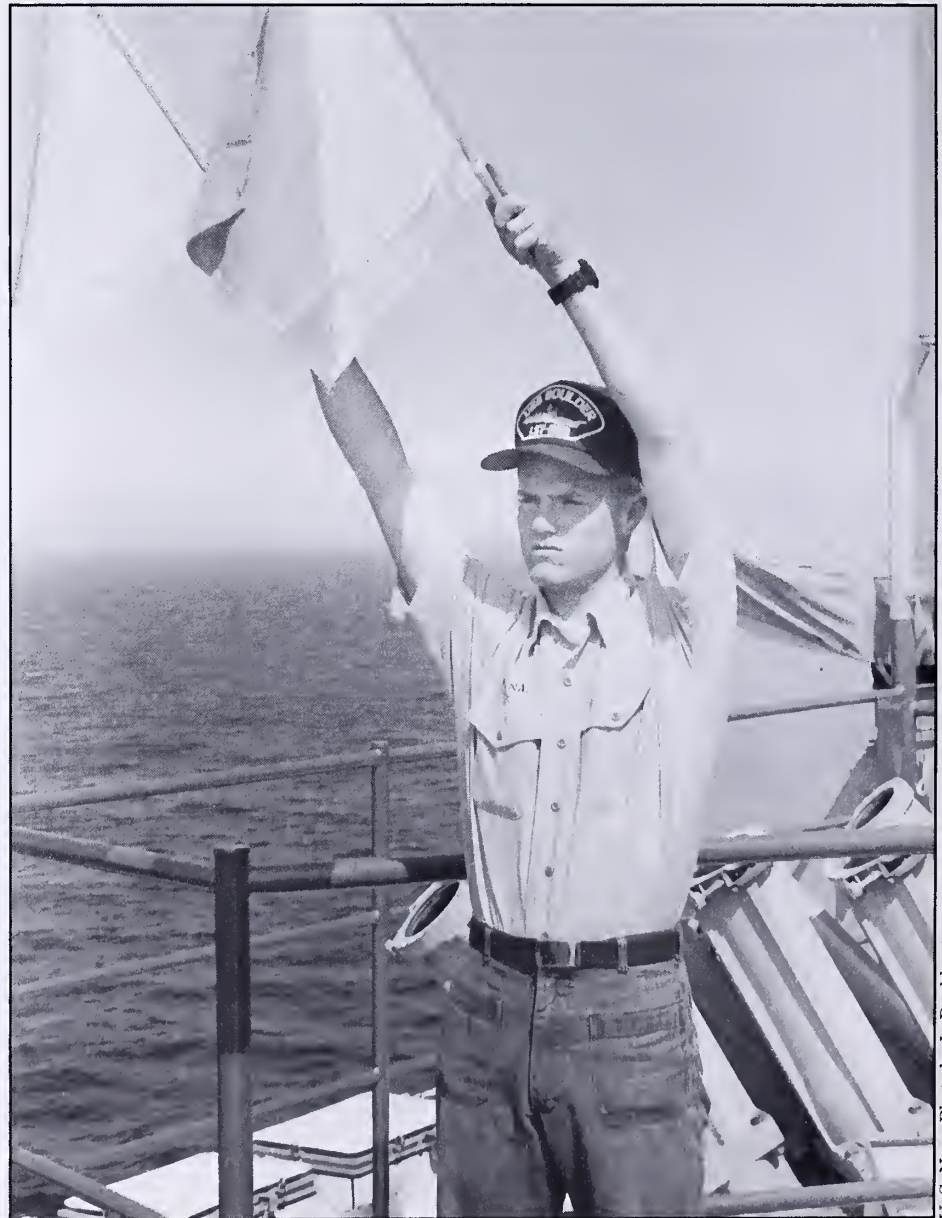
Across the Atlantic...

While crossing the Atlantic is easier today than it was during Christopher Columbus' era, it's still not always a pleasure cruise — especially if you've got a job to do.

Ask the Marines. Physical training comes with the turf when you're one of the few and the proud. Even if the "turf" is a flight deck aboard an aircraft carrier.

The ocean is the Navy's domain. An active sea presence has been a cornerstone of American diplomatic and military policy throughout the 20th century. Sailors work on land and sea. Many jobs, though, take on an added significance when they're performed aboard a ship. Take the signalman. His job is to communicate with other ships and aircraft through the use of flags and flashing lights. When the nearest port is more than 500 miles away, it's easy to see why "keeping in touch" becomes more important than ever.

The Air Force presence in the Atlantic isn't as visible. It's still there, however. An F-117 Stealth fighter receiving fuel thousands of



U. S. Navy Photo by L. Burkhardt



U. S. Marine Corps Photo by Daniel C. Hottle



U. S. Air Force Photo

feet above the ocean is just one example of that presence.

Once the Atlantic is crossed, American service-members can still be found doing their jobs.

An Air Force communications equipment technician checks the voltage level on a signaling unit at a base in England.

A Marine Corps heavy equipment operator, clad in a gas mask, operates a forklift during a blizzard in Norway.

They're not typical jobs in typical settings. Unless you're an American servicemember.



U. S. Air Force Photo



To Europe, the Mediterranean and Southwest Asia...



U. S. Navy Photo



U. S. Navy Photo

Europe has been the biggest area of change in the world in the last two years, thanks to the fall of the Berlin Wall and the collapse of communism in the region.

While the number of American servicemembers in Europe is expected to decrease in the years ahead, there is still a vast U.S. military population in the area — especially in Germany.



U. S. Army Photo

Even in countries where there are no large, permanent U.S. bases, there's almost always an American military presence. In France, for instance, you can find Marine Corps embassy guards. Marines serve on embassy duty throughout Europe and around the world.

The Persian Gulf and the Mediterranean Sea continue to be areas of vital concern to the United States and its allies. Operation Desert Storm is over. But the scenes that were evident during the war can still be seen today.

A Navy crash and rescue crewman takes a break while the aircraft carrier he's aboard takes on fuel.

Navy maintenance crewmen wash down F-14 Tomcat fighters as the sun sets.

An Army tank heads toward a refueling area in the desert.

While the American military's efforts in times of war are well documented, one of the missions that sometimes gets overlooked is humanitarian assistance.

In Bangladesh, an Air Force noncommissioned officer who is part of a disaster relief mission, talks to local residents following a cyclone.

The military's humanitarian role extends beyond Southwest Asia, of course. Like the primary defense mission, it's global in nature. And it doesn't end when the sun goes down.



U. S. Air Force Photo

Around the World...Around the Clock

To Korea, Japan and the Pacific...



U.S. Navy Photo

The emergence over the last decade of Japan and the Republic of Korea as major trading partners with the United States, coupled with the communist regimes in North Korea and China, makes the Asia-Pacific region another area of strategic importance.

All the service branches have important roles there.

At a base in the Republic of Korea, an Air Force staff sergeant loads a Mark-82 general purpose bomb on an F-16 Fighting Falcon.

At a camp in Japan, a Marine sergeant uses a compass to plot his course during a land navigation exercise.

When an aircraft carrier battle group like the *USS Kitty Hawk* takes to sea, the sailors on board are performing their mission while crossing the largest expanse of water on the face of the planet.

Hawaii, a veritable paradise in the middle of it all, has a reputation as a place where the



U.S. Air Force Photo



living is easy. But, if you're a military member stationed there, the job comes first — just like it does anywhere else.

When duty calls, Coast Guardsmen setting up an oil spill containment boom during an exercise have about as much chance of “catching a wave” as a North Dakota farmer has of growing pineapples.

Soldiers are no different. Having a luau on the beach every so often is nice. But, if you're an infantryman and it's time to go out into the field, forget the hors d'oeuvres and roast pig. It's back to basics.

Those who wear the uniform know that's the way it should be.



U.S. Army Photo



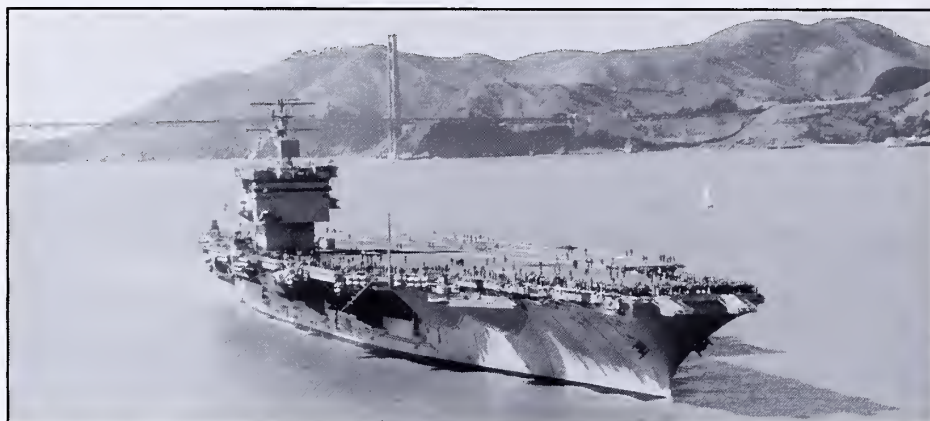
U.S. Marine Corps Photo



U.S. Navy Photo

Around the World...Around the Clock

And Back to the States



U.S. Navy Photo



U.S. Air Force Photo



U.S. Marine Corps Photo

After being at sea for several months, there aren't many sights more impressive to a sailor than the coastline of the United States.

Oil tankers and recreational boats are the norm in San Francisco Bay. But the city's most famous landmark, the Golden Gate Bridge, has also served as a "Welcome Home" sign for thousands of sailors over the years.

While technological growth and regional power shifts have continually caused the American military to reassess how it performs its missions, there has always been one constant — the need for good people to do the job.

That need continues today.

In Colorado Springs, Colo., Air Force Academy cadet

candidates learn the importance of teamwork by playing football.

A Marine recruit works his way through the monkey climb at the Recruit Training Depot, San Diego, Calif., learning the value of fitness.

They're the leaders of tomorrow. And they're following in some big footsteps.

At the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Washington, D.C., an Army guard stands a lonely vigil. The tomb is a memorial to those who made the ultimate sacrifice. It's a sacrifice that any person who wears the uniform may be called upon to make.

Anywhere.

Anytime.

That's the price of freedom.◆



DoD Photo

RANGER

*Some of the most rigorous
physical and mental training
the military has to offer
awaits those members of the U.S. Army
who want to earn the right to wear...*

The Black Beret

By Sergeant D. Townsend Wrenn

It was a dark and stormy night.

Such has been the start of many an ill-fated tale.

For First Lieutenant Jeffrey R. Martindale, though, it was the setting for success.

Martindale is an Airborne Ranger. He's one of an elite group of highly trained soldiers who are able to enter or exit any area by land, sea or air. And he can do it whether he's in an arctic, jungle, desert or mountain environment.

Martindale's dark and stormy night involved a training mission.

The objective: Classified.

The task: To take his platoon of about 35 men, make a 1,000-foot parachute jump into a landing zone surrounded by dense forest and travel undetected for 12 miles to secure the objective within eight hours.

For Martindale and the men of the 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, Fort Lewis, Wash., the mission was a formidable one. When it came time to carry it out, it got even tougher.



DoD Photo

A squad of Rangers receives a briefing prior to an operation.

Officer Profile

Full name — First Lieutenant Jeffrey R. Martindale
Duty title — Ranger Rifle Platoon Leader
Birthdate — April 4, 1963
Hometown — Sonoma, Calif.
High school — Sonoma Valley High School
College — United States Military Academy, West Point
Majors — German and Spanish
Marital status — Married to the former Patricia DiSalvo, who currently works as an Army attorney.
Reason for joining the military — “Service to the nation and the need for a challenge.”
Favorite aspect of the military — “Sense of purpose.”
Where you’ve been stationed — Fort Bragg, N.C.; Fort Lewis, Wash.
Dream assignment — “I am now in my dream assignment.”
Proudest moment in the military — “Being selected to come to the 2nd Ranger Battalion.”
Hobbies — “Running, biking, weightlifting, hiking with my dogs.”
If you had 15 minutes on national television, what would you say? — “I would tell the young men and women of this country to volunteer for some type of national service after high school. Such service broadens your perspective of the world and allows you to form goals for which to strive for the rest of your life.”



Sgt. D. Townsend Wrenn

“As soon as we hit the ground, it started pouring down rain,” said Martindale. “The next thing we knew the temperature had dropped to about 35 degrees.”

With packs on their backs containing all they could possibly need, Martindale and his men moved invisibly through the night, doing their best to ignore the cold and the rain. Seven hours and 54 minutes after the mission had begun, Martindale and his men finally relaxed a little. They had reached and secured their objective.

“Any other unit likely would not

have made it,” Martindale said.

His words express a confidence and pride that underlies the psyche of every Airborne Ranger. Rangers are well-known for being some of the most highly motivated military professionals in the world. They go through the most rigorous physical and mental training the military has to offer to earn the right to wear the distinctive black beret that marks them as a breed apart. They’re highly respected by the rest of the military. And, when Martindale talks about his men, whom he calls the best soldiers in the Army,

it’s clear that the Rangers respect each other.

“These men are leaders,” emphasized Martindale, who was recently promoted to captain. “They train day in and day out to sharpen their skills.”

The result, according to United States Special Operations Command officials, is a soldier who can lead small units and accomplish a mission against seemingly insurmountable mental and physical odds.

Including dark and stormy nights. ■



Keeping the missiles

Down Under

By Sergeant D. Townsend Wrenn

Under an oceanic curtain of darkness, the Navy's Ohio Class submarines silently roam to ensure one thing — that any potential enemy contemplating a nuclear attack on the United States realizes a nuclear response would be a distinct possibility.

Nuclear capability has been a central aspect of America's defense policy ever since the end of World War II. Trident II missile subs are a big part of the equation. When a sub can launch a 130,000-pound solid-fuel propelled missile and hit a target nearly 5,000 miles away, a potential enemy might understandably think twice before pushing the button.

Missile technicians aboard the subs are the ones who ensure the missiles are ready to go if they're ever needed.

"When you're out on patrol, you do maintenance, you run drills...", said Petty Officer 1st Class James Hoch. "Unless commanded by a higher authority, we just stand at the ready."

For missile techs like Hoch, a typical day involves standing watch as a launch supervisor for six hours and being off-duty for 12-18, depending on the number of people on the watch team.

Launch supervisors control access to the missile access doors, pressurize and vent the missile tubes and monitor the safety and security of the system.

Hoch, an instructor at the Trident II missile technician school at Kings Bay, Ga., said the missile tech job involves handling a vast array of tasks.

"You do everything," the Lebanon, Penn., native said. "One day you could be inside a module replacing resistors. The next you could be replacing a hydraulic valve. Some people are masters of one thing. We're not. We get into everything."

A Trident C-4 missile launch test.



Sgt. D. Townsend Wrenn

Petty Officer James Hoch monitors a missile control panel during a training session.

To launch one of the sub's missiles, three different people must activate the launch system. If they are all in agreement, the hatch is opened, the missile tube is pressurized with hydrogen and an ejector pushes the missile through a plastic covering on the tube as it heads toward the surface. The missile travels in a pocket of hydrogen until it breaks the surface where air ignites the missile and sends it downrange toward the target.

"When you're on a sub with this weapon system... (you) don't play games because it's a scary thought if one of these were to go astray," Hoch said.

Hoch has experienced the power of the Trident II firsthand. He took part in a test firing of a missile while assigned to the *USS Pennsylvania*.

"It's amazing that much weight can leave a submarine," Hoch said. "When we launched, it got deathly quiet. You could tell when it broke the surface because we could hear the first stage kick in and it was gone down range."

"To go through a test launch and to know that your weapon system is tested, reliable and works makes you feel good," he said. "It makes you realize the amount of power the crew has and why you're such a deterrent to world war." ♦

Navy

Missile Technician

Description — Responsible for assembling, maintaining, and repairing missiles carried by submarines. They maintain specialized equipment used in these functions. Although missile components and related testing and handling equipment are primarily electrical and electronic, MTs also must work with the mechanical, hydraulic and pneumatic units in the launcher systems, fire control systems and missile flight control systems.

Helpful background skills — High aptitude for electrical and mechanical work. Arithmetic, shop math, electricity, electronics, physics, machine shop and shop work are desirable.

School — Twenty-six weeks at the Trident II school at Kings Bay, Ga.

Related civilian jobs — Electronics mechanic, missile facilities repairer, rocket engine component mechanic.

THE STRAIGHT PITCH

**Story and photo
by Master Sergeant Steve Dry**

If Barrett Hicks ever pitches to you, keep this in mind — he won't throw you a curve.

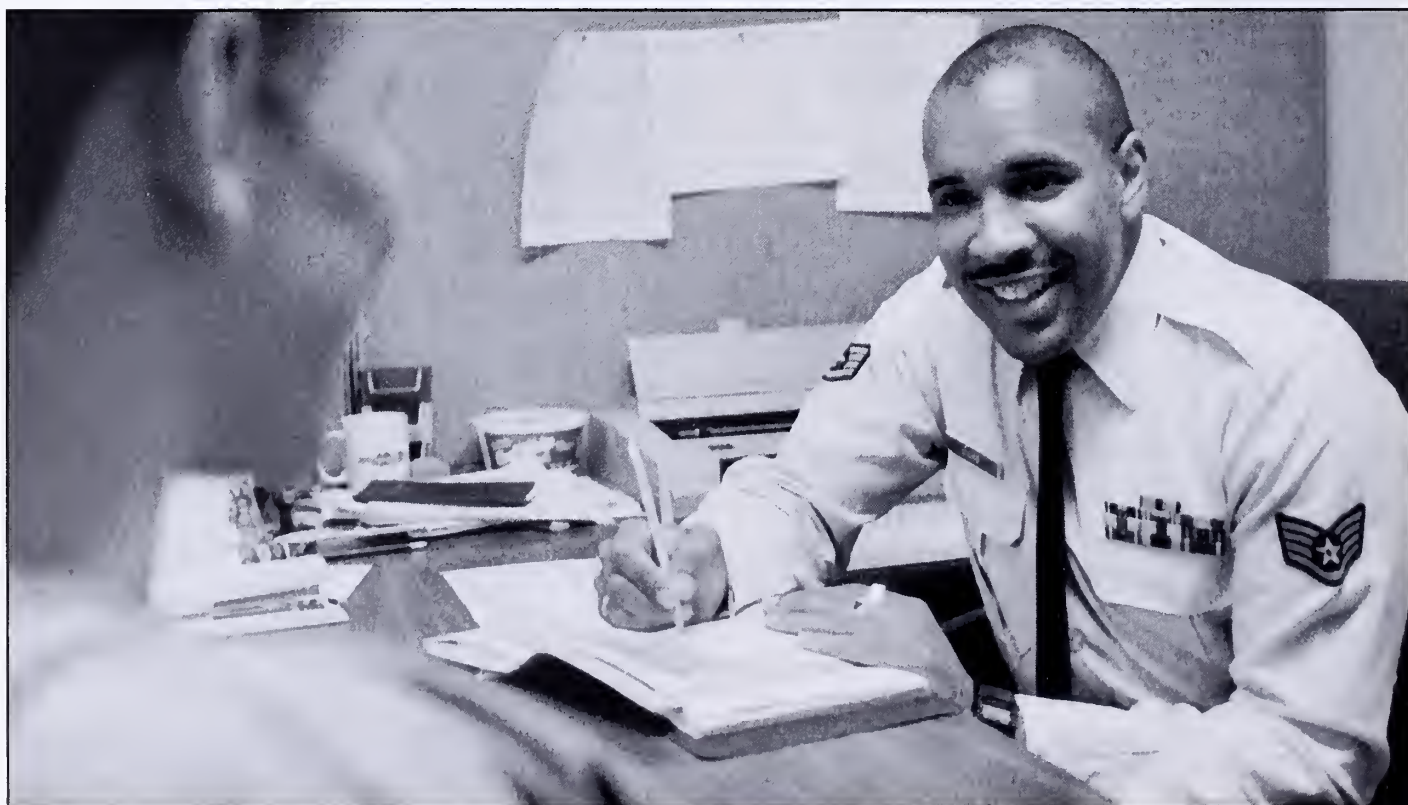
You see, Hicks makes pitches of a different kind. Simply stated, he's a salesman. The product he pitches is the Air Force.

Hicks, an Air Force staff sergeant, is a recruiter. Every day he spends hours telling young people in

Norfolk, Va., what the Air Force can do for them. But, unlike the salesman who tells a customer anything to make a sale, Hicks pulls no punches.

"(I tell them what the Air Force has to offer and I try to tailor it to their needs," Hicks said. "The bottom line is the Air Force's needs are going to come first."

That may not sound like a salesman talking. But Hicks has two things going for him that many salesman don't. First, he believes in his product. Second, he doesn't try to sell it to everybody.



SSgt. Barrett Hicks talks with a prospective recruit about job opportunities in the Air Force.

Hicks locates customers by making presentations at schools or by making telephone calls. Other times, potential recruits seek him out in the office he shares with fellow recruiter Staff Sergeant Ginja Pace.

When Hicks and Pace meet young people, one thing is certain. The “hard sell” is out.

“We don’t force anyone to come in,” said Pace.

“You’ve got to show some pride in that you want the Air Force,” Hicks said, explaining the attitude a potential recruit must have to enlist.

But it takes more than a good attitude to become an airman. In addition to meeting height and weight standards, an enlistee should have a high school diploma or 15 semester hours of college work. If a person with a General Equivalency Degree or other test-based high school equivalency certificate attains an acceptable score on the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB), he or she may be eligible to enlist. Currently, less than 1 percent of Air Force accessions have less than a high school diploma, said Air Force Recruiting Service officials.

Since arriving in Norfolk in 1991, Hicks and Pace

“(I) tell them what the Air Force has to offer and I try to tailor it to their needs. The bottom line is the Air Force’s needs are going to come first.”
—SSgt. Barrett Hicks

have talked to hundreds of young people. They said the most common misperceptions young people have are that it’s extremely hard to get into the Air Force and that every airman is a pilot.

With the current move to reduce the size of the Air Force, Hicks and Pace find themselves facing another challenge — explaining to young people that the Air Force still needs people to fill the lower ranking jobs and provide a career force for the future. In fact, the Air Force’s recruiting goal for Fiscal Year 1992 was increased from 30,600 to 35,100.

Hicks said that because Norfolk has a large military population, the teenagers he sees are well aware that the military is downsizing and are concerned how it might affect them if they enlist.

“The way I approach that is that I tell them that regardless of what job they get in the Air Force, it’s going to be technical in nature,” Hicks said. “...If you do get out, the training and knowledge you get can also be used in the civilian sector.”

For Hicks and Pace, getting that message to prospective airmen is far from a 9-to-5 job. They each work about 60 hours a week. It’s not a job everybody is cut out for. To be an Air Force recruiter, you have to be a volunteer. You also must be at least a sergeant (E-4)

with a minimum of four years of service. And, you have to complete a six-week technical school. The school, one of the most demanding the Air Force offers, teaches the finer points of salesmanship, dealing with people and time management. By the time a recruiter is assigned to a recruiting station, he or she has up-to-date information on career opportunities and practical knowledge from having performed a regular Air Force job at a base. Hicks, for instance, worked in munitions operations prior to volunteering for recruiting. Pace was a production imagery specialist.

When Regina Sullivan, a 1992 graduate of Norview High School in Norfolk decided to join the Air Force, Pace was the person she went to see.

“I felt she was pretty honest with me,” Sullivan said. “...And any questions I had, Sergeant Pace was more than happy to answer.”

After discussing her options with Pace and talking with her family, Sullivan enlisted for six years. She is undecided on whether she’ll make the Air Force a career. That’s not uncommon, Pace said.

“Most are mainly just looking for a job...or, maybe, to finish their education,” she said. “They’re usually not looking long term.”

Pace said she volunteered for recruiting because she wanted a challenge. Hicks became a recruiter because it enabled him to return to his hometown, where he felt he could serve as a positive role model.

“I truly enjoy young people,” Hicks said. “I’ve had a pretty good career in the Air Force...I saw recruiting as a way to be able to come back to Norfolk, to show the Air Force image, to serve as a black role model. I came from a neighborhood where there wasn’t a great deal of that...(I knew) if I could get back, I could make a difference.”

Hicks and Pace cite the main advantages of their job as getting the opportunity to get out and meet people and having the chance to be their own boss.

And, of course, they have a very tangible role in shaping the future. The leaders of tomorrow’s Air Force are out there right now. Recruiters like Hicks and Pace are looking for them today. ♦

Air Force

Recruiter

Description — Locates, interviews and informs potential recruits about current Air Force programs, benefits and opportunities.

Helpful background skills — Strong speech and writing skills; an ability to pay attention to details.

School — Six weeks at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

Related civilian jobs — Salesman, marketing specialist.

THE 'WRITE' STUFF

By Corporal Karl C. Ulrich

Not too many reporters ever said the job was easy. Long nights, short praise and an editor who "needs to have it yesterday" are just a few of the inconveniences that confront the typical reporter on a regular basis.

But, it's all part of the public's right to know and the reporter's obligation to deliver the whole story — even if it means taking a few risks.

For Corporal Brett Beard, delivering the story of Desert Storm meant risking his life.

Beard, a public affairs specialist, is a combat correspondent at Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C., and one of the few who witnessed the initial allied ground invasion into southern Iraq. For Beard, Desert Storm was an opportunity to put into practice the knowledge and experience he had gained long before Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait.

Beard was introduced to the public affairs field after completing basic training. He attended the Defense Information School at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind., and learned the basics about writing, handling community relations events and dealing with the media.

"It was an intense crash course in journalism," said Beard. "But, you not only had to learn how to write stories, you had to learn how to arrange for base picnics, air shows...basically anything that had to do with community relations."

Public affairs specialists generally work in one of three areas. Internal information involves reporting for a local military audience. Media relations involves writing news releases for publication in civilian newspapers and magazines. It also entails responding to media when they have military-related questions. Community relations involves handling events designed to increase the public's understanding of the military.

Beard is currently the managing editor of the base

newspaper at Cherry Point.

"My favorite part about being in public affairs is that it's never the same job twice," Beard said. "Sure, it's a set job in a way — you come in, write a couple of stories and go home. But every set of stories is about new things and new people; people you get to know before you write the story and people you learn from."

"At first," Beard added, "when I meet some Marines, they think it's not the tough job that they have. But when they see you in action, right there, right next to them, they see you're just as tough as they are. It's not the 'sit down behind a desk' job that people think it is."

Beard experienced that first-hand when he was temporarily pulled away from the newspaper to serve in the Persian Gulf War. As a member of "Task Force Ripper," Beard served as an escort for two Cable News Network reporters and a Los Angeles Times journalist. After the first day of the ground offensive, Beard and the news crew faced a tricky problem — how to get several hours worth of timely videotaped war footage, interviews and stories to people in the United States when 20 miles of desert separated the news crew from the nearest command post.

"All I kept thinking was 'Hey, we're winning this war over here and the people back home need to know that,'" Beard said.

Beard decided to leave the reporters with another Marine, while he delivered the story back to the Joint Information Bureau, the nerve center of media operations during the war.

Carrying video tape, audio tape, 10 rolls of film and a couple of hand-written stories, Beard set out to "basically hitch a ride south." The plan changed when Beard realized the supply convoy he had intended to ride with was no longer heading south. With the war going so well, there was no serious need for re-supply and troops were still heading north into battle. That left Beard with one option. His feet.

"I realized the news was getting old, so I decided I would set out on foot and head towards the breach in the mine fields," said Beard. "I was able to find the first breach okay and the mine field was well marked. But, later, I found a mine field that wasn't very well marked, and it wasn't until I was in the middle of it that I found out."

Beard was able to get to safety after he came across a set of vehicle tracks that he followed.

Armed with his M-16A2 assault rifle, Beard marched across the desert, keeping a watchful eye for any possible enemies. Running low on water as he trudged across the burning sand, Beard began to realize that his "old friend," the sun, had become his biggest enemy.

Dizzy from dehydration, Beard knew he'd have to lighten his load to get back alive. He discarded his helmet, flak jacket and pack.

Beard said, "The only things I kept were my rifle, some 782 gear (used for holding canteens) and my gas mask." And, of course, the news footage and stories.

Twenty miles after he had left the reporters, Beard completed one of the most dangerous news deliveries of all time. And the stories reached the world.

Beard was rewarded with six hours of sleep before he was sent back to the front lines to resume his duties. By the time he reached Kuwait, though, the ground war was over.

After the war, Beard was honored by the White House Press Photographers' Association for the diligence he displayed while in the desert.

Beard has resumed his duties at Cherry Point and now concentrates his energy on getting the story to his local audience. ♦

Marine Corps

Public Affairs Specialist

Description — Gathers material for, writes and edits news and feature stories and radio and television broadcast scripts; answer media queries; helps organize community relations events.

Helpful background skills English composition, typing, speech and journalism courses.

School — Thirteen weeks at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind.

Related civilian jobs — Journalist, radio or television broadcaster, public relations specialist.



Corporal Brett Beard, combat correspondent, escorts Iraqi prisoners to a detention camp in southern Kuwait during the allied ground offensive of Desert Storm.

Health Services Specialist

The doctor's 'patient' assistant

Story and photo
by Sergeant D. Townsend Wrenn

John Snyder likes helping people so much that he chose to make it a career.

Snyder is a health services specialist third class at Seattle Coast Guard Station, Wash.

Every day he's at work, Snyder is with patients. Taking vital signs, asking them about their symptoms and making diagnoses are part of his daily routine, which begins at 7 a.m. As a corpsman, he also is authorized to prescribe some medications. In many cases, a patient can walk into the clinic, receive medical treatment and never even see a doctor.

"I like to help people," Snyder says. But, he admits, the job sometimes has its tough moments.

"You deal with people that aren't in a really good mood when they come see you," the 25-year-old Peoria, Ariz., native said. "You need to make them feel better with your attitude and the quality of care that you give them."

When Snyder enlisted, he was interested in getting into the administration field. But during a stint on the *U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Mellon*, Snyder met a corpsman who was also on board. That meeting spurred his interest in the career field.

After he decided to become a corpsman, Snyder received medical and dental training. While he's currently assigned to the medical clinic, corpsmen also routinely work in the dental clinic.

Dealing with people's lives is a responsibility many people wouldn't want to bear. Snyder seems to relish it.

"I like to get involved," he said. "I like the aspect of being there when something happens or being there to help — not only in the military, but on the outside also."

"If you're walking down the street and somebody collapses, you happen to know CPR, you can jump right in there and, maybe, save this guy's life. That's what's important and what the Coast Guard is -- being lifesavers." ♦



John Snyder takes vital signs on a patient. A normal part of his day is seeing and diagnosing patients.

Coast Guard

Health Services Specialist

Description — Administers medicines, applies first aid, assists in the operating room, nurses the sick and injured and assists dental officers.

Helpful background skills — Hygiene, biology, first aid, physiology, chemistry, typing and public speaking are desirable.

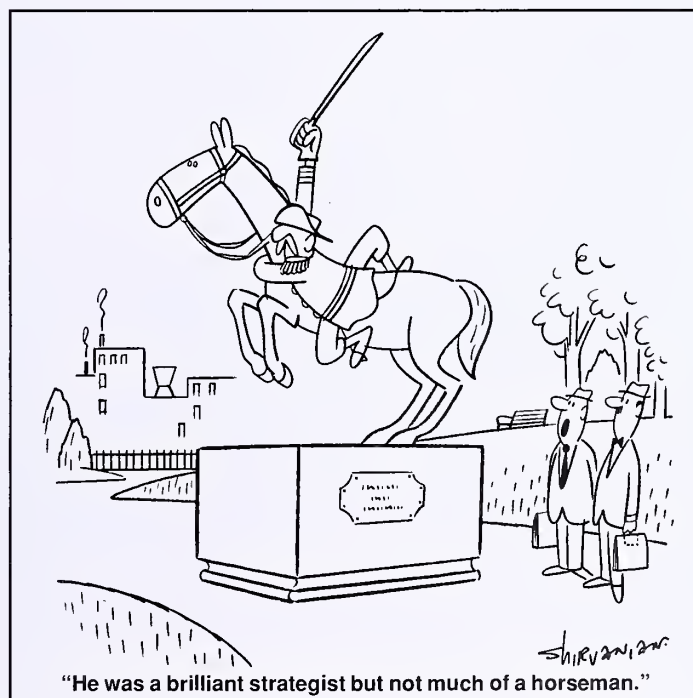
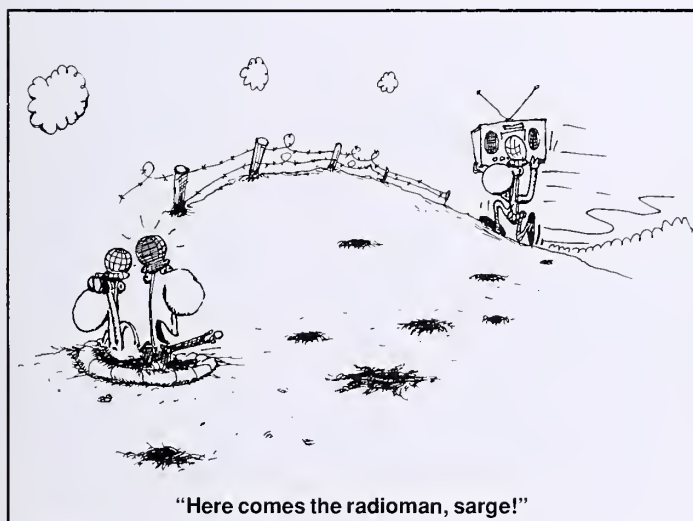
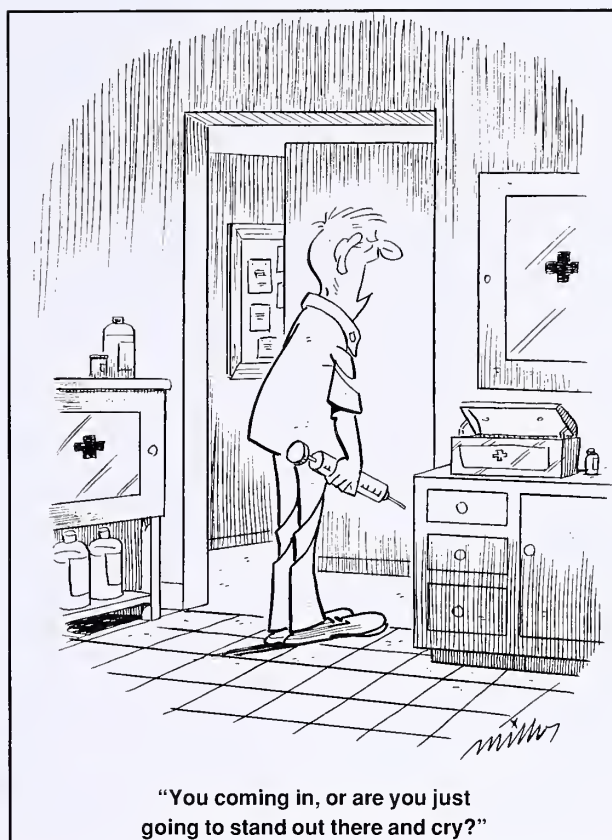
School — Twenty weeks at Petaluma, Calif.

Related civilian jobs — Practical nurse, medical, dental or X-ray lab technician, pharmacist and emergency medical technician.

P.S.

Parting Shots

Life in the military sometimes has its lighter moments. Here are a few of our favorites.



Next Month
*Military Entrance Processing Stations:
a look inside
AND more Career Profiles!*

BackTalk

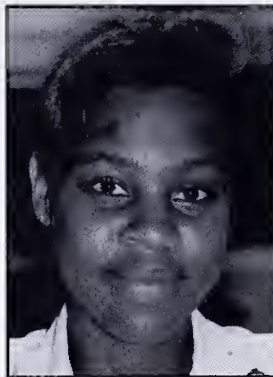
Each month, **PROFILE** solicits comments and opinions from its readers about topics and issues relating to the military. This month, **PROFILE** visited Granby High School, Norfolk, Va., and asked Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps students:

What have you gotten out of JROTC and has it spurred any interest in a military career?

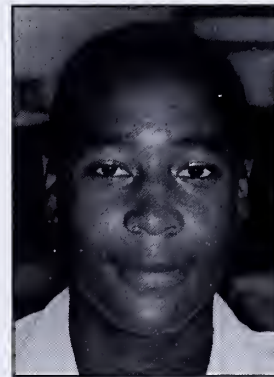
FLARE



Melissa Martinez, 16, Junior
 "If I'd go in, it would be as an officer and not enlisted. The program has been a confidence builder and has taught me how to work with people and take orders. I want to succeed and be the best."



Stacey Wingate, 17, Senior
 "I plan on going to college and enrolling in ROTC...There have been some tense moments, but the program has taught me that quitting is not the answer — keep going with it."



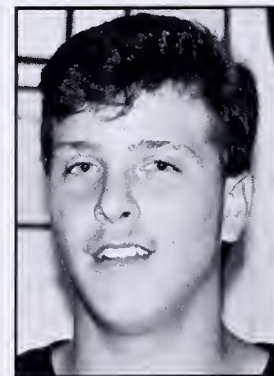
Clyde Brown, 16, Junior
 "I still have a year to think about it. Having had family members in the military service, I got into ROTC to see what it's like. Right now, I just want to get as (far) as possible."



Francis Moreno, 17, Senior
 "(I) want to go on to college and continue with ROTC and major in business administration. I don't know what kind of field I could get into with a degree in administration, but I do want a military career. I like the class, trips (and) training."



Jessica Hammond, 17, Senior
 "That's the reason I joined in the first place...a career in the military. I'm interested in marine biology and the Navy has a good program. I enjoy working with people and have benefited from the discipline instilled in the program. ROTC teaches things that you can't learn in a regular class."



Dennis Grudzinski, 17, Senior
 "I thought about a military career for a long time and plan a career in the Navy. My dad was in the military and I saw a lot of the benefits, but the program has helped me decide. I basically dedicated myself to the program...and it's going to help me in the future. ROTC has helped me turn around with my classes and discipline."

BULK RATE
 POSTAGE FEES PAID
 DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
 PERMIT NO. G-9

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

Department of Defense
 High School News Service
 Bldg. X-18, Naval Station
 Norfolk, VA 23511-6698

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
 Penalty for Private Use, \$300